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Agenda item 156

Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago Wins (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th, 55th and 60th meetings, on 13 and 15 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.54, 55 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the final performance of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (A/56/841) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.75

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Belgium and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti" (A/C.5/56/L.75).

02-43149 (E) 210602

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.75 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1063 (1996) of 28 June 1996, by which the Council established the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, and resolution 1086 (1996) of 5 December 1996, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 31 July 1997,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1123 (1997) of 30 July 1997, by which the Council established the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti for a single four-month period,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 1141 (1997) of 28 November 1997, by which the Council established the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti, and resolution 1277 (1999) of 30 November 1999, by which the Council continued the Mission until 15 March 2000,

Recalling its resolution 51/15 A of 4 November 1996 on the financing of the Support Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/269 of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Missions are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Missions, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

[1] A/56/841.
[2] A/56/887.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Missions by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Missions with the necessary financial resources to enable them to meet their outstanding liabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti as at 30 April 2002, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 19.8 million United States dollars, representing some 17 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only one hundred thirty-two Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in paragraph 82 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; [2]

8. *Decides* to suspend for the immediate future the provisions of regulations 4.3, 4.4 and 5.2 (d) of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations in respect of the surplus of 4,000,200 dollars in the light of the cash shortage of the Missions, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an updated report in one year;

9. *Also decides* to defer consideration of the treatment of the decrease in staff assessment income of 21,300 dollars in respect of the surplus referred to in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti".

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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th, 55th and 60th meetings, on 13 and 15 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.54, 55 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the final performance of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (A/56/851) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.74

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Belgium and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item, introduce, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti" (A/C.5/56/L.74).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.74 without a vote (see para. 6).

02-43155 (E) 210602

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1048 (1996) of 29 February 1996, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission for a final period of four months, to 30 June 1996, as well as all previous resolutions of the Council on the Mission,

Recalling also its decision 48/477 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was decision 53/477 of 8 June 1999,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to meet its outstanding liabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Haiti as at 30 April 2002, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 1.9 million United States dollars, representing some 1 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only one hundred forty-one Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

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[1] A/56/851.

[2] A/56/887.

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in paragraph 82 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

8. *Decides* to credit Member States the amount of 45,567,055 dollars, subject to the provisions of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 56/____ on the strategic deployment stocks;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide an updated report in one year;

10. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti".

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Agenda item 138

Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 59th and 60th meetings, on 23 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.59 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the final disposition of assets of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola as at 20 June 2000 (A/56/900) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/948).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.5/56/L.80

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June 2002, the representative of Brazil, coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft decision entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola" (A/C.5/56/L.80).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/56/L.80 without a vote (see para. 6).

02-43136 (E) 210602

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola

The General Assembly

(*a*) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the final disposition of assets of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

(*b*) Approves the donation of assets, with total inventory value of 235,800 United States dollars and corresponding residual value of 81,700 dollars, to various United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, as detailed in annex IV to the report of the Secretary-General.[1]

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[1] A/56/900.

[2] A/56/948.

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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago Wins (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th to 57th, 59th and 60th meetings, on 13, 15, 20 and 21 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.54-57, 59 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/56/760);

Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/56/871);

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887/Add.10);

Note by the Secretary-General on the approved budgetary requirements of each peacekeeping operation for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/C.5/56/36/Rev.1);

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Note by the Secretary-General concerning amounts to be apportioned in respect of each peacekeeping mission, including the prorated share of the support account for peacekeeping operations and financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period 2002 to 2003 (A/C.5/56/45);

Field assets control system

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress in the implementation of the field assets control system: a module of the field mission logistics system (A/55/845);

Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/7[1] and A/56/887);

Instances for which the United Nations is entitled to restitution as the result of non-compliance with status-of-forces or other agreements

Report of the Secretary-General on instances for which the United Nations is entitled to restitution as the result of non-compliance with status-of-forces or other agreements (A/56/789);

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887);

The concept of strategic deployment stocks and its implementation

Report of the Secretary-General on the concept of strategic deployment stocks and its implementation (A/56/870);

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/902);

Support account for peacekeeping operations

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/56/882);

Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/56/885);

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/941);

Progress report on the write-off of contingent-owned equipment at liquidated missions

Note by the Secretary-General on the progress report on the write-off of contingent-owned equipment at liquidated missions (A/C.5/56/43);

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.76)

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of India and coordinator of informal consultations on this question introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy" (A/C.5/56/L.76).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.76 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution I).

B. Progress in the implementation of the field assets control system: a module of the field mission logistics system (draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.77)

6. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Nepal, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Progress in the implementation of the field assets control system: a module of the field mission logistics system" (A/C.5/56/L.77).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.77 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution II).

C. Instances for which the United Nations is entitled to restitution as the result of non-compliance with status-of-forces or other agreements (draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.84)

8. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Canada, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Instances for which the United Nations is entitled to restitution as the result of non-compliance with status-of-forces or other agreements" (A/C.5/56/L.84).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.84 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution III).

D. The concept of strategic deployment stocks and its implementation (draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.87)

10. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of India and coordinator of informal consultations on this question introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "The concept of strategic deployment stocks and its implementation" (A/C.5/56/L.87).

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.87 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution IV).

E. Support account for peacekeeping operations (draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.91)

12. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Canada, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Support account for peacekeeping operations" (A/C.5/56/L.91).

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.91 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution V).

F. Write-off of contingent-owned equipment at liquidated missions (draft decision A/C.5/56/L.94)

14. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft decision entitled "Write-off of contingent-owned equipment at liquidated missions" (A/C.5/56/L.94).

15. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/56/L.94 without a vote (see para. 19, draft decision I).

G. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (draft decision A/C.5/56/L.95)

16. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Canada, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft decision entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" (A/C.5/56/L.95).

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/56/L.95 without a vote (see para. 19, draft decision II).

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

18. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

The General Assembly,

Recalling section XIV of its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994,

Recalling also its decision 50/500 of 17 September 1996 on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/272 of 14 June 2001,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base[2] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Reiterating the importance of establishing an accurate inventory of assets,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the facilities provided by the Government of Italy to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base;[2]

3. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[4]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider using national professional officers to the extent possible, and to report on such efforts in the context of his next performance report;

5. *Reiterates* the need to implement, as a matter of priority, an effective inventory management standard, especially in respect of peacekeeping operations involving high inventory value;

Performance report for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

6. *Takes note* of the financial performance report of the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;[5]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

7. *Approves* the cost estimates for the United Nations Logistics Base amounting to 14,293,200 United States dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

Financing of the cost estimates

8. *Decides* to apply the unencumbered balance of 1,562,400 dollars and other income of 643,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 to the resources required for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

9. *Also decides* that the decrease in the staff assessment income of 148,100 dollars shall be set off against the unencumbered balance in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 referred to in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Further decides* to prorate the balance of 12,087,800 dollars among the individual active peacekeeping operation budgets to meet the financing requirements of the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

11. *Decides* to set off against the balance referred to in paragraph 10 above the estimated staff assessment income of 1,077,000 dollars for the period from

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[2] A/56/760 and A/56/871.
[3] A/56/887 and Add.10.
[4] A/56/887/Add.10.
[5] A/56/760.

1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, to be prorated among the individual active peacekeeping operation budgets;

12. *Also decides* to consider during its fifty-seventh session the question of the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base.

Draft resolution II

Progress in the implementation of the field assets control system: a module of the field mission logistics system

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the field assets control system: a module of the field mission logistics system[6] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the field assets control system: a module of the field mission logistics system[6] and endorses the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its reports;[7]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide an update on the implementation of the field assets control system to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

Draft resolution III

Instances for which the United Nations is entitled to restitution as the result of non-compliance with status-of-forces or other agreements

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on instances for which the United Nations is entitled to restitution as the result of non-compliance with status-of-forces or other agreements[8] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9]

1. *Takes note* of the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Recalls* its resolution 55/12 of 1 November 2000;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report further to the General Assembly on the issues raised in his report that relate to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

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[6] A/55/845.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7), chap. I, paras. 95-102, and A/56/887, para. 63.

[8] A/56/789.

[9] A/56/887, paras. 30-31.

Draft resolution IV

The concept of strategic deployment stocks and its implementation

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the concept of strategic deployment stocks and its implementation[10] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[11]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take fully into consideration the provisions of its resolution 55/247 of 12 April 2001 on procurement reform in the implementation of the present resolution;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on an annual basis to the General Assembly on the award of contracts for procurement for the strategic deployment stocks to all Member States, in particular to developing, least developed and African countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Endorses* the concept and implementation of the strategic deployment stocks for one complex mission;

4. *Also endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[11] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

5. *Approves* 141,546,000 United States dollars for the strategic deployment stocks, taking into account the reserve at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi as of 30 April 2002 that meets the requirements of the strategic deployment stocks;

6. *Decides*, subject to the provisions contained in paragraph 7, to credit Member States with their respective share of the cash balance of 95,978,945 dollars from the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces Headquarters and 45,567,055 dollars from the United Nations Mission in Haiti to fund the strategic deployment stocks;

7. *Decides*, on an exceptional and ad hoc basis and without prejudice to Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations, unless notified otherwise by a Member State within forty-five days of the issuance of the notification by the Secretary-General of the apportionment of the respective shares of the cash balances in the accounts referred to in paragraph 6, to effect the transfer of the cash balances referred to in paragraph 6 to the account of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for the purpose of financing the strategic deployment stocks;

8. *Also decides*, on an exceptional and ad hoc basis and without prejudice to Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations, that a Member State that does not select the option referred to in paragraph 7 will be assessed its respective share of the 141,546,000 dollars as a one-time requirement according to the levels as at 1 July 2002, as set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of the same date, taking into

[10] A/56/870.
[11] A/56/902.

account the scale of assessments for 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of the same date, payment to be made in a manner of the Member State's choosing to include, inter alia, any combination of the cash balances referred to above and/or new funds, to cover its assessed share of 141,546,000 dollars;

9. *Further decides*, on an exceptional basis, that in the absence of a direct transfer to the strategic deployment stocks, the respective share of the credits from the liquidated missions will be credited to those Member States once their assessed contribution is received;

10. *Decides* that the provisions of paragraph 8 will also apply to Member States that have no share in any of the unencumbered balances referred to in paragraph 6;

11. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, on an exceptional and ad hoc basis, following the application of Member States' cash transfers in accordance with paragraphs 7 and 8, to transfer a portion of the interest income from the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund, taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 51/218 E of 17 June 1997, so as to make available to the account of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi a total of 141,546,000 dollars inclusive of Member States' contributions, to establish the strategic deployment stock programme;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the expenses incurred in the implementation of the strategic deployment stocks, and decides to review the financing arrangements after consideration of the report of the Secretary-General;

13. *Endorses* the recommendation contained in paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[11] pertaining to the scope of the start-up phase of peacekeeping operations that includes the implementation of the strategic deployment stocks stockpile;

14. *Also endorses* the replenishment policy set out in paragraphs 24 to 27 of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

15. *Further endorses* the Advisory Committee's interpretation of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, as outlined in paragraphs 22 to 25 of its report;[11]

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly all expenses incurred on the activation of the strategic deployment stocks and to propose a course of action to be taken by the Assembly on the financing of peacekeeping expenses, in the event the Security Council does not approve the mandate to establish a peacekeeping operation that has been initiated under the commitment authority;

17. *Regrets* the delay in the liquidation of closed peacekeeping missions and the reimbursement of the respective shares to the Member States;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the expeditious liquidation of closed peacekeeping missions and the crediting of Member States following the liquidation of such missions and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-seventh session;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on an annual basis to the General Assembly on the implementation of the strategic deployment stocks within the context of his report on the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi.

Draft resolution V

Support account for peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993 and 56/241 of 24 December 2001, its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001[12] and on the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003,[13] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[14]

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations being able to respond and deploy rapidly to a peacekeeping operation upon the adoption of a Security Council mandate,

Recognizing also the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General,[12,13] notes with appreciation the introduction of results-based budgeting format to the support account, and requests that further improvements be made in the results-based budgeting format, taking into account the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 8 to 15 of its report;[14]

2. *Reaffirms* the need for effective and efficient administration and financial management of peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to continue identifying measures to increase the productivity and efficiency of the support account;

3. *Affirms* the need for adequate funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, as well as the need for justification for that funding in support account budget submissions;

4. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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[12] A/56/882.
[13] A/56/885.
[14] A/56/941.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a coherent policy on gender mainstreaming in all of the Organization's peacekeeping activities, to submit, if necessary, a request on this issue in the light of that policy, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Decides* to review the proposal for the D-1 post of Chief of the Communications and Information Technology Service, outlined in paragraph 34 of the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Approves* the request for two information officer posts at the P-4 level, as outlined in paragraph 71 of the report of the Secretary-General;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the formula approved in General Assembly resolution 55/273 of 14 June 2001 with regard to the resident auditor posts and to present information on the employment of such resident auditors in a consolidated manner in future support account reports;

9. *Notes with concern* the high level of resources for consultants and travel in the report of the Secretary-General on the support account, especially in view of the large number of new posts proposed, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full and efficient use of "in house" United Nations expertise before projecting resource needs for consultants within the support account submission;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the feasibility of consolidating the accounts of the different peacekeeping operations, in addition to the current practice of reporting, budgeting and financing of peacekeeping operations, in accordance with the existing financial rules and regulations of the United Nations;

11. *Decides* to review, at the resumed part of its fifty-eighth session, the existing posts approved in its resolutions 55/238 of 23 December 2000 and 56/241 of 24 December 2001 and in the present resolution, in order to consider their justification, taking into account the ongoing evaluation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the impact of recent restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on its backstopping of peacekeeping operations performance;

12. *Decides* to maintain, for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the funding mechanism for the support account used in the current period, from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, as approved in paragraph 3 of its resolution 50/221 B of 7 June 1996;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure that delegation of authority to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and field missions is in strict compliance with relevant resolutions and decisions and the relevant rules and procedures of the General Assembly on this matter;

14. *Takes note of* the status of recruitment of the 91 additional posts approved for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in its resolution 56/241, and requests an update at its fifty-seventh session;

15. *Reiterates its concern* over the imbalance in the geographical representation of Member States in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and urges the Secretary-General to take immediate measures to improve the

representation of underrepresented and unrepresented Member States in future recruitment;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to use, in future reports of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the term "the recommendations of the Advisory Committee that were adopted by the General Assembly" instead of the current term;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide, in future reports on the financing of the support account, an annex containing information on the status of implementation of relevant adopted recommendations of the Advisory Committee and other oversight bodies;

18. *Reiterates* the need to develop a methodology and monitoring system to evaluate the results of training in peacekeeping and related areas, as recommended in paragraph 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Special Committee for Peacekeeping at its fifty-seventh session;

Performance report for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

19. *Approves* the additional requirements of 2,136,200 United States dollars for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

20. *Decides* to apply other income of 2,264,000 dollars, from interest income in the amount of 1,699,000 dollars, miscellaneous income in the amount of 24,000 dollars and savings on, or cancellation of, prior period obligations in the amount of 541,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, against this amount;

21. *Approves* an increase of 741,000 dollars in respect of income from staff assessment for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

Budget estimates for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

22. *Approves* the support account requirements in the amount of 100,896,200 dollars gross for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, including 687 continuing and 15 new temporary posts and their related post and non-post requirements;

23. *Also approves* an estimate of 13,739,300 dollars in respect of income from staff assessment for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

Financing of requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations

24. *Decides* that requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 shall be financed as follows:

(a) The balance of other income for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 127,800 dollars, over additional requirements for the same period to be applied to the amount of 100,896,200 dollars;

(b) The balance of 100,768,400 dollars to be prorated among the budgets of the active peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

25. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the prorated requirements provided for above prorated amount totalling 14,480,300 dollars, being the estimated staff assessment income for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the increase in staff assessment income for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001.

19. The Fifth Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I

Write-off of contingent-owned equipment at liquidated missions

The General Assembly,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General on the write-off of contingent-owned equipment at liquidated missions,[15]

Requests the Secretary-General to continue intensifying his efforts so as to finalize the write-off claims in liquidated missions by December 2002 and to submit a final report to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-seventh session.

Draft decision II

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly decides to request the Secretary-General to suggest measures that would better streamline the policy guidelines related to the temporary duty assignment of staff in peacekeeping missions and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

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[15] A/C.5/56/43.

United Nations A/56/990

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Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago Wins (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 59th and 60th meetings, on 23 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.59 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/56/818);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/56/826);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/946).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.81

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of the Philippines and coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced, on behalf of the

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Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara" (A/C.5/56/L.81).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.81 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1406 (2002) of 30 April 2002,

Recalling also its resolution 45/266 of 17 May 1991 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/262 of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara as at 30 April 2002, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 50 million United States dollars, representing some 11 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only nineteen Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

[1] A/56/818 and A/56/826.
[2] A/56/887 and A/56/946.

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Performance report for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

12. *Takes note* of the financial performance report of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;[4]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

13. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara the amount of 43,412,900 dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, inclusive of 41,529,500 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 1,681,900 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 201,500 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

[3] A/56/946.
[4] A/56/818.

Financing of the appropriation

14. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 43,412,900 dollars at a monthly rate of 3,617,742 dollars in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of the same date, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2002 and 2003 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B also of the same date, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

15. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 3,288,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 at a monthly rate of 274,000 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 3,041,000 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the prorated share of 229,000 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the increase in staff assessment income of that account for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, and the prorated share of 18,000 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the reduction in staff assessment income of that account for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

16. *Decides* that for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 3,327,737 dollars and other income of 2,482,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B;

17. *Also decides* that for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 3,327,737 dollars and other income of 2,482,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 16 above;

18. *Further decides* that the decrease in the staff assessment income of 465,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 shall be set off against the credits from the unencumbered balance referred to in paragraphs 16 and 17 above;

19. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

21. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as

appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara".

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Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago Wins (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th, 55th and 60th meetings, on 13 and 15 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.54, 55 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the final performance of the United Nations Transitional Administration in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (A/56/844) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.90

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Australia and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group" (A/C.5/56/L.90).

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5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.90 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1037 (1996) of 15 January 1996, by which the Council established the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium for an initial period of twelve months, and resolution 1145 (1997) of 19 December 1997, in which the Council noted the termination of the Transitional Administration on 15 January 1998 and established, with effect from 16 January 1998 the Civilian Police Support Group for a single period of up to nine months,

Recalling also its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 on the financing of the Transitional Administration and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 54/274 of 15 June 2000,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Transitional Administration and the Support Group are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Transitional Administration and the Support Group, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

[1] A/56/844.
[2] A/56/887.

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Transitional Administration by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Transitional Administration and the Support Group with the necessary financial resources to enable them to meet their outstanding liabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group as at 30 April 2002, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 25.4 million United States dollars, representing some 6 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only one hundred and forty-one Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in paragraph 82 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

8. *Decides* that 35,805,865 dollars shall be credited to Member States;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide an updated report on the financial position of the Transitional Administration and the Support Group in one year;

10. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group".